

Earlier today the [Norwegian Nobel Committee](#) announced that sharing of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to [Vice President Al Gore](#) and the

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ([IPCC](#))

). This prestigious award is among the highest honors advocates can receive. In the past few years, Gore and the IPCC have significantly raised the profile of global warming as an issue in all levels of society and across international borders. To recognize Vice President Gore and the IPCC for receiving the prize, this morning

[I introduced a resolution](#)

in their honor. Vice President Al Gore has generated unprecedented international interest in global warming, stimulating children and adults alike, to explore the causes, potential consequences and solutions for the climate change crisis. Gore's vigorous work to highlight the issue was the focus of the Academy Award-winning documentary "An Inconvenient Truth," which used both Gore's life experiences and a series of scientific studies and observations to crystallize the argument that global warming is real and already taking a toll on the planet.

The Nobel Committee cited Al Gore as "probably the single individual who has done most to create greater worldwide understanding of the measures that need to be adopted" in the struggle against climate change and its dramatic consequences. I commend the committee on its recognition of the importance of climate science education, and have introduced legislation, the [Global Warming Education Act](#), to help expand these efforts. The IPCC has issued scientific reports over the past 20 years that have led to an increasingly informed consensus about the connection between human activities and global warming. Thousands of scientists and officials from over 100 countries have collaborated to demonstrate increasing evidence linking human activities and global warming's consequences.

Some of these consequences include rising oceans, more frequent and intense tropical cyclones and prolonged droughts. From a geopolitical standpoint this leads to fiercer competition for resources and armed conflict. The United Nations' Environment Program Report cites climate change among the key triggers in the civil war in Sudan's Darfur region and the deaths of up to 450,000 women, men and children.

This prize is welcome news not just for Americans, but all global citizens. It honors a group of people who have dedicated all their energy to a problem that affects every single being on this planet, and is also evidence that the global community is listening and heeding the urgent call of Mr. Gore's and the IPCC.